

LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims below will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A member for use in a vacuum bandage connected to a vacuum source and for use with a wound having a wound surface, the member comprising
a wound contacting layer having a top surface and a bottom surface adapted to be in contact with and generally conform to the wound surface,
a plurality of discrete holes ~~formed in~~ extending through the bottom surface of the wound contacting layer,
a cover coupled to the wound contacting layer,
at least one discrete opening ~~formed in the~~ extending through a top surface of the cover, and
a port configured to communicate with the vacuum source, the port being in fluid communication with each discrete hole and the at least one discrete opening, opening,
wherein the member is formed from a material that is generally non-porous, generally non-foam-like, and generally non-absorptive.
2. (Currently amended) The member of claim 1, ~~wherein the member comprises a wound contacting layer and a cover coupled to the wound contacting layer,~~ wherein the wound contacting layer includes the bottom surface adapted to be in contact with and generally conform to the wound surface and an upper has a top surface having a plurality of channels formed therein, and wherein the cover has a bottom surface that engages with the upper top surface of the wound contacting layer and cooperates with the channels formed in the top surface of the wound contacting layer to define a plurality of passageways between the port and each discrete hole and between the port and the at least one discrete opening.
3. (Original) The member of claim 2, wherein the cover has a first surface area and the wound contacting layer has a second surface area larger than the first surface area, and wherein the channels of the wound contacting layer extend beyond an outer edge of the cover to define a plurality of the discrete openings.

4.(Original) The member of claim 2, wherein the cover includes a plurality of discrete holes in communication with the channels of the wound contacting layer to define a plurality of the discrete openings.

5.(Currently amended) The member of claim 1, wherein ~~the member includes an outer peripheral portion including~~ the at least one discrete opening comprises a plurality of discrete openings extending through the top surface of the cover and adapted to communicate negative pressure to an undermined portion of the wound.

6.(Currently amended) The member of claim 5, wherein the at least one discrete opening is positioned to engage an undermined portion of the wound the cover includes an outer peripheral portion and the plurality of discrete openings are formed in the outer peripheral portion of the cover.

7.(Original) The member of claim 6, wherein the member is relatively thin and flexible.

8.(Currently amended) A bandage connectable to a vacuum source for use with a wound having a wound surface, the bandage comprising

a port configured to communicate with the vacuum source,

a wound contacting layer having a ~~wound contacting bottom~~ surface adapted to be in contact with and generally conform to the wound surface, ~~the wound contacting layer including~~ a plurality of discrete channels extending along a top surface of the wound contacting layer, the channels being in communication with the ~~port and port~~, a plurality of discrete holes opening through the bottom surface of the wound contacting layer each in communication with one of the channels, and

a cover coupled to the wound contacting layer ~~to cooperate~~ and having a bottom surface cooperating with the channels extending along the top surface of the wound contacting layer to define a plurality of passageways connecting each hole with the port, the cover having a first surface area and the wound contacting layer having a second surface area; larger than the first surface area, outer portions of the channels extending between an outer edge of the cover and an outer edge of the wound contacting layer defining a plurality of peripheral access channels being smaller than the second surface area to define an outer peripheral portion of the wound contacting layer configured to communicate with negative pressure to an undermined portion of the wound; ~~wherein the wound contacting layer is formed from a material that is generally non-porous, generally non-foam-like, and generally non-absorptive.~~

9.(Currently amended) A member for use in a vacuum bandage connected to a vacuum source and for use with a wound having a wound surface, the member comprising a port configured to communicate with the vacuum source,

a wound contacting layer having a bottom surface adapted to be in contact with and generally conform to the wound surface, a plurality of discrete channels extending along a top surface of the wound contacting layer, the channels being in communication with the port, a first plurality of discrete holes opening through the bottom surface of the wound contacting layer and adapted to communicate with negative pressure to the wound surface, and

a cover coupled to the wound contacting layer, a second plurality of discrete holes opening through a top surface of the cover, the cover having a bottom surface cooperating with the channels extending along the top surface of the wound contacting layer to define a plurality of passageways connecting each first discrete hole and each second discrete hole with the port, the cover having a first surface area and the wound contacting layer having a second surface area larger than the first surface area, outer portions of channels extending between an outer edge of the cover and an outer edge of the wound contacting layer defining a plurality of peripheral access channels, the second plurality of discrete holes and the plurality of peripheral access channels adapted to communicate negative pressure to an undermined portion of the wound, ~~the member being formed from a generally non-porous material,~~

~~a port configured to communicate with the vacuum source, and~~

~~a passageway between each first discrete hole and the port and between each second discrete hole and the port.~~

10.(Currently amended) The member of claim 9, ~~further including a wound contacting layer including the wound contacting surface and the first plurality of discrete holes and a cover coupled to the wound contacting layer including the plurality of second discrete holes~~ wherein the member is relatively thin and flexible.

11.(Original) The member of claim 10, wherein the cover includes an outer peripheral portion and the second plurality of discrete holes are formed in the outer peripheral portion.

12.(Canceled)